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SUMMARY

Artillery Day gets little publicity in regional broadcasts. The livestock industry is still criticized as the weak spot of Soviet agriculture, and agro-technical sources are said to be poorly organized and hindering collective farm progress. In industry, criticism continues to focus on figure juggling and attempts to produce good "averages" instead of concentrating on better unit performance. The drive for the adoption of the cyclical production system (tsiklichnost) in the coal-mining industry is gaining momentum. The so-called report and election meetings (otchetno-vybornie sobrania) which precede the elections to the primary Party organizations, dominate the news on Party activities. There is repeated emphasis on the reluctance to apply criticism and self-criticism within these organizations. Weaknesses of the Komsomol Party get some official attention. Comment on ideological affairs is along familiar lines, and the Uzbek and Estonian Republics are given more prominence in this connection than any other areas. The Peace Partisan Conference in Moscow is widely publicized in the central press and to foreign audiences but gets practically no mention on the regional transmitters.

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AGRICULTURE

PRAVDA discusses the slow progress in stockbreeding (22 November) and points to Ulyanovskaya Oblast as an example of good intentions and bad performance. Endless discussions, pious wishes and numberless orders and instructions issued by the Oblast officials, says the paper, have been substituted for practical work. All that resulted in a very poor showing by the livestock industry. The complexity of the red tape involved in running the Oblast's livestock industry is cited in the 30 different decisions adopted by the Oblast Party Committee, the 50 directives by the Oblast Executive Committee and the 170 orders and directives issued at the same time by the Oblast Agricultural Administration. A PRAVDA article by Karamyshev of the same date (not broadcast) says that the stockbreeding industry of the Gorno-Altai Autonomous Oblast is behind plan because of the lack of emergency fodder supplies and temporary winter shelters for the cattle at the remote pastures (otgonnie pastbishcha). The Oblast fodder production, according to Karamyshev, fell short of this year's target and is also below last year's achievement by 35,000 tons of hay and 30,000 tons of ensilage fodder. (There is no mention, however, of the planned production figures for this or last year.)

VELIKOLUKSKAYA PRAVDA (18 November) reminds its readers that the livestock situation this year is not much better than it was last year "when a large number of cattle perished as a result of insufficient fodder, lack of warm sheds and bad care." Exceptionally alarming (osobenno vyzyvayet trevogu), according to the paper, is the lack of winter quarters for the cattle in Serezhinsky, Leninsky, Ilyinsky, Kudeversky and Kholmsky Rayons where the plan (for cowshed construction) has "practically failed." The oblast fodder storage plan has been fulfilled by only 65.7%, and in a number of rayons--Leninsky, Oktiabrsky, Nelikovsky and others--the figure is "even smaller." Another reason for this lagging behind (nedopustimoye otstavanie), the editorial points out, is the inadequate technical training of the cattle breeders who need to engage in more socialist competition: "every cattle breeding farm must have an agitator attached to it." A KOMMUNA editorial broadcast from Voronezh (27 November) also complains about the insufficiency of fodder which, it claims, in many farms is covered up by filling the cattle feed troughs with straw. The construction of winter sheds is far behind schedule and even the available barns fail to meet the requirements: "there are indications that in some places the premises have not been heated." Such facts, the paper concludes, cannot be tolerated any further, and it urges that the respective kolkhoz heads and agricultural specialists be brought to account. (There is no mention of the particular rayons or officials involved.)

Criticism of the Kazakhstan livestock industry has now shifted to the Institute of Stockbreeding of the Kazakh Academy of Sciences which has "relaxed its work" to develop new types of animals, such as Kazakh fine-wool sheep and whiteface cattle. "Certain ministries and enterprises," on the other hand, are censured for "disregarding" valuable suggestions of the scientific workers. The result of this official bureaucracy and "scientists' indifference" is that scientific research is losing contact with production and neither the field workers nor the stockbreeders get any benefit from it." Such, for instance, is the case of the Aktyubinsk experimental station of Dzhusun rayon where scientific activities are "carried on apart from kolkhoz practice." (KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA, 23 November) AKTYUBINSKAYA PRAVDA (27 November) admits that Dzhusun rayon is about the worst in the oblast in regard to fodder preparation, and blames the wastage of fodder reserves on the "indifferent attitude" adopted by a number of collective farms. The lack of fodder is said to be felt also in Novorossiysky, Stepnoy and other rayons.

The livestock situation in Novosibirsk oblast, according to SOVETSKAYA SIBIR (30 November), has deteriorated to a point where the future of the entire industry is jeopardized: "stockbreeding brigades are not staffed...order is lacking in the farms...and severe infringements of zoo-technical and veterinary rules are much in evidence." This, the paper adds, is further aggravated by the peculiar attitude adopted by the oblast machine-tractor stations which are said to be "systematically disrupting the plans" for assistance to the stockbreeding workers.

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The shortcomings are so numerous and varied, according to the oblast Party Committee, that every organization in any way connected with the stockbreeding industry must assume its share of responsibility. Listed among them are the Oblast Consumers Union, the Oblast Agricultural Department, the Oblast Industrial Cooperative, the Communications Department, the Supplies Department, the Cultural and Enlightenment Department and the Oblast Executive Council.

A long report on the plenary session of the Kursk Oblast Party Committee (29 November) reveals that the fodder shortage in the oblast is as acute as it has ever been and that no steps are being taken to remedy the situation. "How is it possible to breed stock when the kolkhoz has no large fodder-supply base?" It was disclosed at the session that in a number of cases, particularly in Verkhne-Lyubazhsk rayon, fodder brigades have not even been formed; in others--Medvensk rayon--they were organized but given no work to do, and in still others the organization existed only on paper.

Agro-technical study courses: The three-year agricultural study courses introduced by the government to raise the qualifications of the kolkhozniks, particularly the collective farm chairmen, have often been criticized on regional broadcasts as unproductive due to indifferent attitudes, low attendance and lax supervision. The official campaign to improve the agricultural education system and to increase the enrollment was intensified in September and October for the new school year. This theme is taken up again in a number of areas, mostly in the Ukraine, where both instruction and attendance are reported to be unsatisfactory.

MOLOT (16 November) discusses the importance of kolkhozniks' education and admits that last year's failure has not been remedied this year. Studies have not begun in Bagayevsky, Azovsky and other rayons. In Oktiabrsky rayon there is an insufficient number of students and a lack of qualified instructors. In other rayons, lessons are conducted "with completely unsatisfactory attendance" and the students have not been provided with textbooks, copybooks or other paraphernalia. Both the oblast Agricultural Administration and the Agricultural Propaganda Department are said to display a lukewarm attitude to agro-technical courses. The oblast book selling department and the branch of the Union press, apparently taking their cue from the higher officials, do not "bother" to supply the students with the necessary study aids.

STALINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA (21 November) also refers to last year's failure of the agricultural study program in Molotovskiy rayon where the classes for the kolkhoz workers "almost had to be discontinued." In Machesansky rayon this year, the Party Committee has adopted a "strange policy of noninterference" (strannaya politika nevmeshatelstva) in the farmers' education. A number of resolutions have been passed but none have been put into effect. In other rayons classes have not even been started. "Nothing can justify the delays experienced in Proleysky, Eltonsky and Kletsky rayons." A "formalistic attitude" is listed as the only reason for all these shortcomings.

The three-year course for agricultural experts in Ivanovsky, Oktiabrsky, Ovideopolsky and Shyryaevsky rayons "have been set up only formally," complains CHERNOMORSKA KOMMUNA (22 November). The leaders of these rayons, the paper says, are underestimating the importance of kolkhoznik training, and oblast officials are not paying sufficient attention to the whole program. An unsigned KIROVOGRADSKA PRAVDA article (30 November) says that the three-year agricultural courses were all but abandoned in Novoukrainsky, Adzhamsky, Peshchanobrodsky and Znamensky rayons. "No one there is interested in...the three-year courses for the kolkhozniks. Not one class has been held." PRIURALSKAYA PRAVDA (27 November) blames Povodolova, head of the Agricultural Propaganda Administration for "all the serious shortcomings" in the organization of kolkhoz studies. Many rayons in West Kazakhstan oblast, says the paper, are doing a poor propaganda job, and some of the rayon Party Committees do not exercise control over the propagandists. The remedy for the situation offered by the paper, however, is vague.

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Agricultural Statute Violations: PSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA (25 November) angrily denounces the "distortions and direct violations of the collective farm statute" in a number of farms in the oblast. The editorial hints at complicity between the farmers and local officials by asserting that certain rural administrative bodies "frequently close their eyes to obvious infringements of the statute" (chasto zakryvayut glaza na yavnie narusheniya ustava). What is more, some leaders are "guilty of corrupting the administrators of collective farms and sanctioning the illegal disposal of collective farm funds." In some collective farms the working norms and working days are said to be lowered arbitrarily and the distribution of labor is bad. One of the most sinister practices observable at the cattle breeding farms, according to the paper, is "the incorrect method of payment for working days." This it says, is known to some agricultural officials who do not care to do anything about it. (The work day in Soviet agriculture does not necessarily imply an eight-hour shift, as in industry. A tractor driver is usually credited with five work days for every shift, and stakhanovites get even more. On the other hand, some unskilled laborers earn less than a work day per shift.)

A report from Dzaudhikau, North Osetian ASSR, (27 November) quotes the Chairman of the Autonomous Council of Ministers as demanding "the rigid execution of the basic law of kolkhoz life," that is the collective farm statute. Addressing the oblast Communist Party session "on measures for the liquidation of the agricultural artel statute violations," the Chairman revealed serious errors and shortcomings "in the adherence" to the charter but gave no details. There can be no doubt, he said, that the Party and Soviet organizations will be able to cope with those "malpractices" and to put an end to the abuses in agriculture.

BOLSHEVISTSKAYA MOLODEZH (23 November) appeals to the kolkhoz Komsomols to enforce the observance of the kolkhoz statute and to "combat the squandering of communal resources" in Smolensk oblast. The paper does not elaborate the point beyond inferring that the practice is still prevalent and that something had better be done about it:

Loafers and idlers, squanderers and pilferers of kolkhoz property must be boldly unmasked. Poor economy and incorrect use of work days must not be allowed to pass unnoticed. The guilty must be punished!

Infringements of the agricultural statute are also alluded to in a report from Kursk of 29 November (already quoted). This reference was made in a speech by the secretary of the oblast Party Committee Goroshnikov who gave no specific information as to the nature and scope of the state violations. He urged the collective farmers to hold frequent meetings to discuss "questions of preserving communal economy."

Shortcomings in Ukrainian Agriculture: RADYANSKA UKRAINA (15 November) declares that agricultural progress in the Ukraine leaves much to be desired. The potato deliveries, it says, have not been completed, and the same applies to oil-bearing crops, wool, milk, butter and other agricultural produce. Nor have preparations been made for winter premises for the livestock. The cotton-picking plan for the Republic as a whole has been fulfilled by 82.9% and the delivery plan by only 68.2%. A "great amount" of uncollected cotton still remains on the fields, and in Zaporozhye and Kherson oblasts one quarter of the cotton crop remains on the plants. Sugar beet deliveries are slow, especially in Sumy and Kamenets-Podolsk oblasts. The fallow-plowing plan has been fulfilled by only four oblasts, and the situation is "particularly bad" in Western Ukraine, Polesye, Odessa and Kherson oblasts. PIVDENNA UKRAINA (16 November) takes a similar dim view of the fallow-plowing progress. In a number of rayons where the plowing should have been finished, the paper asserts, the plowing has only begun. Among them are Telegulo-Bereznyansky, Bratsky and Shirokolanovsky rayons. In the Novokrasnyanska machine-tractor station "not one tractor driver fulfills his shift-norm. Tractors are idle for long periods of time because of faulty technical equipment and maintenance."

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The cotton theme is dealt with again by RADYANSKA UKRAINA on 22 November. No improvement in the cotton situation has been noted in recent days, says the paper. A number of rayons in Odessa and Nikolayev oblasts are far behind plan and continue to work "unsatisfactorily." The machine tractor stations serving the cotton plantations are said to be just as slow, some of them having completed their assignments by "only 30 to 40%." Among them are the Radelska, Novo-Zburivska and Bestirska stations of Kerson oblast and Antatolivska, Shirokolanevka and other machine-tractor stations of Nikolayev oblast.

Opposition to Mechanization; Idle Machinery: The familiar complaint about inefficient utilization of farm machinery and excessive idleness of tractors is heard again on a number of regional transmitters. A broadcast from Velikie Luki alludes to what might be construed as opposition to further mechanization of agricultural labor. MQLOT (20 November) speaks of the serious shortcomings in the organization of repair work in the machine-tractor stations which have been lagging behind "for several years." And yet, says the paper, many machine tractor stations and sovkhoses are repeating last year's mistakes. No adequate preparations have yet been made for the coming agricultural year, essential tools and equipment are lacking; but "no action is taken." The reasons for this may be deduced from the remedies suggested by the editorial: "all mechanics should be brought up to date on progressive technology, and the living conditions of the repair workers should be improved."

A considerable number of machines stand idle and the agreements with collective farms are not being fulfilled, complains PSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA (17 November). It suggests that the lack of well-trained personnel is a factor. The paper also warns against a repetition of last year's mistakes, the neglect of the welfare of the mechanization students. This, in the paper's view, is all the more to be prevented now that "many girls" are joining the mechanization courses. (There is, of course, no reference to the fact that the low attendance of mechanization course by male students may have forced the officials to induce girls to join.)

The failure of the tractor-repair plan in the major areas of Kirovograd oblast is admitted by KIROVOGRADSKA PRAVDA (30 November). The fourth-quarter plan has been fulfilled by only 44.5% and there is no improvement in view, according to the paper. The large inter-rayon workshops designed for capital repairs of farm implements are said to have failed to justify their existence. They barely managed to take care of 17 to 29% of the repair jobs assigned to them, and "the Bobrynetska, Alexandriyska and Dolynska inter-rayon workshops for capital repairs have in effect completely failed...in the fourth quarter." The Kirovograd spare part plant "Piatnadsat Rokiv Zhovtnya," has "without any reason whatsoever" failed to produce a single spare part for tractors. Its production plan called for 2,000 sockets (gilza) and 2,000 pistons (porshen). An "extremely unsatisfactory" job is imputed to the Khmelevska, Kapustyanska, Alexandriyska and Novoprazhska machine-tractor stations.

VELIKOLUKSKAYA PRAVDA (27 November) calls the flax-processing and delivery plan "extremely alarming" (kraine trevozhno), and pins the responsibility on the bureaucratic attitude of the Oblast Agricultural Administration. The latter, it says, does not display much interest in helping the mechanics to run their machines which results in frequent breakdowns and unnecessary idleness. Another reason, and perhaps the most important, the paper hints, is the "prevalent anti-mechanization mood" (nalichie anti-mekhanizatorskikh nastroyeniy) among many collective farm managers and in many rayons. And what is "most regrettable," according to the paper, is that "no fight is being waged against this attitude." Reference to tractor repairs, in a different context, is made by the same paper on 30 November: "...the overhaul of tractors is carried out in an unorganized manner...the technology of overhaul is being crudely violated."

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INDUSTRY

Un-Soviet Approach to Production: PRAVDA (16 November) speaks in disparaging terms of the prevailing practice of using the above-plan performance of efficient enterprises to cover up the inefficiency of the backward ones. (As mentioned in a previous CPW report, this device is often resorted to in industry where the gross production figures for a given area or branch of industry do not reflect the actual performance of individual plants or of the departments within a plant.) The paper refers to the leaders of "some ministries and departments" whose standard procedure is to make up the deficiencies of certain enterprises at the expense of the more productive plants. This is a wrong, un-Soviet approach to the fulfillment of the State plans (eto nepravilny, nesovetsky podkhod k vypolneniu gosudarstvennykh planov), declares the editorial. These unnamed leaders are reminded again that what the State plans call for, in addition to fulfillment, is a detailed accounting for every type of production (po vsemu assortimentu). One of the methods widely used in industry, it is claimed, is to "produce items which require the least effort and trouble" and to leave the planned production of more complicated products underfulfilled. Following are some specific examples cited by the paper as "detrimental to the interests of planned economy":

The Kharkov Electrical-Mechanical Works--fulfills the gross production plan but every quarter it fails to deliver dozens of large electrical machines;

Chelyabinsk Precision Instruments Plant --fulfills the monthly plan for only two out of the six main types of its products;

The Kuibyshev Works --regularly fails to fulfill the plan for the production of three out of the eight items it produces;

Sverdlovsk Furniture Factory --fulfilled its October gross output plan by 112.3% but failed in the output of tables, couches and other items which are in greatest demand.

From Baranovich, Belorussia, comes a report (24 November) that a number of enterprises, particularly in the timber industry, have failed to organize effective socialist competition for the fulfillment of the production plan "in all aspects." The Timber Trust No. 16, for example, completed its annual production targets ahead of schedule but was behind plan in the output of four types of products.

MINING

Production Losses, the Cyclic System: KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA (16 November) reveals that "millions of rubles of state funds" have been lost through unsatisfactory work at the Karaganda coal pits. Many collieries, says the paper, continue to "work at a big loss" and to increase production costs instead of reducing them as specified in the plan. These growing losses are said to stem from the "insufficient exploitation" of modern technology and extravagant use of raw materials.

The struggle for the "cycle method" (borba za tsikl), says VOROSHILOVGRADSKAYA PRAVDA (21 November), is a struggle for technical progress, and the slightest manifestation of indifference to this new technological system should be dealt with summarily by the Party organizations concerned. This editorial stricture is directed primarily against the Voroshilovgrad Coal Combine where little attention is said to be devoted to the organization of cyclic schedule work. This benevolent attitude toward the advancement of technology, says the paper, is particularly reprehensible in view of the fact that most of the coal faces are not fulfilling the new schedule (there is no indication whether the coal production targets have been increased but the words "new schedule"/novy grafik/ as used in this sentence suggest an upward-revised norm):

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In October, out of 165 selected coal faces of the combine only 46 fulfilled their norm, and only 45 performed at a rate of one cycle per day...These figures show that the introduction of advanced technology...has not yet become...the primary work of the combine.

Just how much importance the authorities attach to the introduction of the cyclic system in the coal industry is made clear in the concluding editorial remark about the prevailing indifferent attitude toward the new production system:

It is high time to put an end to all that. The exploitation of coal faces according to the cyclic schedule is not a campaign, not a fashion. It is the very foundation of modern labor organization and production at all Soviet mines...the main duty of the managers of the combine, trusts and mines.

Russian version:

Pora so vsem etim reshitelno pokonchit. Pabota lav po grafiku tsiklichnosti ne kampania, ne moda. Eto osnova osnov sovremennoi organizatsii truda i proizvodstva na sovetskikh shakhtakh...glavnaya obyazannost rukovoditelei kombinata, trestov i shakht.

A frank admission that labor productivity in "most of the enterprises" of the Donets coal basin is still very low--"lower, in fact, than before the war"--is made in a report from Stalino on the All-Donets Conference of the coal industry workers (22 November). This low efficiency is interpreted as the inevitable outcome of the wrong production system now in force, and the "organization of the cyclic system" is suggested as the only remedy. The large-scale introduction of new technical equipment into the Donets mines, says the report, has not brought about the expected production results, and the "achieved increase (in coal extraction) is completely unsatisfactory." It appears that the new machinery and the additional miners employed have left the total coal output more or less unchanged:

Eighty-eight more people than before the war are now engaged in the extraction of 1,000 tons of coal. Even...where a large number of machines have been introduced, considerably more people are working than before the war.

PARTY ACTIVITIES

RADYANSKA UKRAINA (16 November) reiterates the familiar warning against the lack of criticism and self-criticism on the part of the rank-and-file Party membership. This lack of criticism, the paper declares, is particularly conspicuous at the current report-and-election Party meetings when it is most needed. Alluding to the high-handed methods of dealing with rank-and-file critics of Party affairs, often disclosed at the primary Party meetings, the editorial says that the suppression or discouragement of criticism, the "keystone of proletarian dictatorship," ranks among the cardinal sins:

Every Communist has a right and duty to take part in the discussion of practical problems of the Party's policy, to criticize any of the Party leaders and organs; he can be elected to any of these organs.

Communist Party members are further reminded that the Party is the sole repository of power in the country and it is up to them alone to discover shortcomings and correct them:

This (proletarian) dictatorship is led by a single party of Communists which does not share, and cannot share, the power with any other Party. This makes it plain that the Communists themselves must expose and remedy all mistakes....

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RADYANSKE PODILYE (20 November) admits that the first report-and-election meetings (etchetno-vybornie sobrania) have already revealed numerous weaknesses in the primary Party organizations: "attempts are being made to suppress criticism...and to leave the shortcomings hidden." In a virulent diatribe against the Smotrytsky rayon Party officials, the paper tells of a rank-and-file Party member who, risking his superior's displeasure, attempted to criticize certain financial abuses by high functionaries. He was interrupted with the admonition that "it was not for him, a rank-and-file Communist, to know how the higher Party functionaries are working."

A report from Stalingrad (27 November) reflects the concern of the Kumylzhensky rayon Party Committee over the lack of new applicants for Party membership, and intimates that the allegedly preferred jobs held by Communists may not provide sufficient inducement for non-Party youths to seek membership in the Party. "Numerous members of the plenary session noted that in many primary Party organizations Communists had not been placed in vital production posts...."

The "low level" of Party agitation is dealt with in a number of transmissions from Kirovograd, Stalingrad, Orel, Zhitomir and others. Typical of them is a SOVETSKAYA SIBIR editorial (29 November). Naming several agitators of the Novosibirsk freight station, the paper wonders how the "Bolshevik word" can be carried to the masses by the people who "are still not familiar with the decree on the elections to the people's courts" and "who have not read Beria's October Anniversary Speech."

The poor performance of the oblast Komsomol organizations is deplored by VELIKOLUKSKAYA PRAVDA on 24 November. One of the "many defects and weaknesses" of these organizations is that the growth of their membership is "very weak." The apparent reluctance of the youths to participate in the life of the collective farms, a primary duty of Komsomols, is referred to as a "particularly deficient" feature of Komsomol propaganda:

In Idritsky, Kudeversky, Podberezinsky and Serezhinsky rayons not one young collective farmer joined the Komsomol.... In Leninsky, Nevelsky and some other rayons there are collective farms which have no Komsomol organization at all.

Other reports on Komsomol activities, as heard from Alma Ata, Izmail and Kherson, point to the same failings that are characteristic of the parent Party organizations: aloofness from the non-Party masses, restricted criticism and self-criticism and the inordinately wide gap between the organizations of the various levels of the Party hierarchy. An interesting sidelight on the social structure of the Communist Party is cast by a report from Dzauzhikau, North Osetian Autonomous Oblast (29 November). The 317 people admitted to the Promyshlenny rayon Party between January 1950, and November 1951, "included 97 workers."

IDEOLOGICAL WEAKNESSES

Moscow's concern over the ideological aspect of Uzbek life is evident from the PRAVDA editorial on the subject (17 November), a long article by Nyazov, Secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party, broadcast on the same day and other reports. PRAVDA emphasizes that the relapse into an unpatriotic mood (retsidiv antipatrioticheskikh vzglyadov) on the part of a number of Uzbek writers is a recent phenomenon and should be looked into without delay. Some poets and writers says the paper, are still "busy glorifying the remote past trying to mold modern content into archaic forms of the long extinct feudal culture...." (zanimayutsia voskhvaleniem dalekogo proshlaga, pytayutsia vliit sovremennoe soderzhanie v arkhaiskie formy davno izzhivshoi sebya feodalnoi kultury.) The same "censure" (upryok), concludes the editorial, is applicable to a "number of composers" of the Soviet Far East whose "obsolete canons" (ustarevshie kanony) of art are contrary to the optimistic outlook of the Soviet people.

Nyazov is even more critical and outspoken than PRAVDA: "the republic's writers have not yet created any literature that is monumental in point of ideological and artistic qualities." (pisateli respubliki yeshcho ne sozdali monumentalnikh po svoim ideinym and khudozhestvennym kachestvam literaturnikh proizvedeniy.) The lack of criticism and self-criticism among writers, though deplored by Nyazov as

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a contributing factor in the present state of affairs, is not considered the prime reason. What is worse, in his opinion, is the sinister practice of "mutual glorification and slurring over of mistakes." (vzaimnoye voskhvalenie i zamazyvanie oshibok). This, he says, has led to manifestations of "rootless" (bezrodniy) cosmopolitanism, pan-Turkism and pan-Islamism in Uzbek literature. Grave ideological mistakes of a nationalist nature (natsionalisticheskogo kharaktera) are said to have been made in the works of Sabir Abdullah, Turab-Tula, Sheikh-Zade, Mirtemir and other writers. The nature of these mistakes, as defined by Nyazov, is the "idealization of the feudal past...and truckling to the old feudal culture" of the khans and beys.

A PRAVDA article by Nikolayev and Kytt (21 November not broadcast) de-emphasizes the achievements of the popular Esthonian writer Lydia Koydula (1843-1886), and cautions against the "wrong interpretation" of her works. Koydula was a progressive writer and sincere in her struggle for the freedom of her native Esthonia, the article admits, but "was unable to rise high enough to properly grasp the historic destinies" (ne mogla podniatsia do takogo ponimania istoricheskikh sudeb) of the Esthonian people. There is no reference to any objectionable features of her work but it appears that it lends itself to various interpretations, including one favorable to the bourgeoisie. The latter, in fact, published her works twice, in 1925 and 1934, and "clutched at the erroneous tendencies" (khvatilis za oshibochnie tendentsii) in her poems to convey a bourgeois-slanted ideology. It is unfortunate, the article points out, that the mistakes made by the publishers of Koydula's work enjoy a certain amount of popularity (imeyut nekotorye rasprostraneniye). They are also said to be reflected in the textbooks on Esthonian literature published this year for senior school students. Similar "confusion" (putanitsa) is encountered often in the press comment on the poetess' works, the writers conclude, and they admonish the Esthonian publishers to be more careful in the future:

It is time for a cautious approach to the publication of classic literature, on the basis of a profoundly scientific study (gluboko nauchnago izucheniya) of the progressive writers of the past.

A STALINSKY PUT editorial discusses the survivals of capitalism (perezhitki kapitalizma) among the Kazakhs and declares that even certain rayon Party Committees are not immune to such ideological errors. The (Kustanai) Oblast Education Department and rayon Party Committee, for example, do not appear to object to the practice of "not selecting" young Kazakh girls for schools. This practice made it possible for only "a very small number" of Kazakh women to enter universities in the past two years.

Addressing a plenary session of the central committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party, (26 November, not broadcast) Melnikov intimates that ideology in the Ukraine is still something to be concerned about. The Central Committee, he avers, "has not looked far enough" into the affairs of various scientific and other organizations. Melnikov is not specific about the nature of the affairs but, as reported in PRAVDA, "serious failings" are imputed by him to the work of the following organizations: the Union of Soviet Writers, the Union of Ukrainian Soviet Composers, the Committee on Art under the Ukrainian Council of Ministers as well as a number of unnamed Ukrainian newspapers and magazines. The Kiev, Kharkov, Odessa and Lvov Oblast Party Committees are said to exercise "superficial" (poverkhnostniy) control over the ideological affairs in their respective areas.

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